



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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Disaster Field Office

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FEMA-1491-DR-VA

Commonwealth Situation Report #43

Tuesday, January 6, 2004

1. Situation

Hurricane Isabel entered Virginia September 18 after making landfall along the North Carolina Outer Banks. The Commonwealth sustained winds near 100 mph and tropical storm winds for 29 hours. The hurricane produced storm surge of 5 to 8 feet along the coast and in the Chesapeake Bay with rainfall totals between 2 to 11 inches along its track. Damages due to wind, rain, and storm surge resulted in flooding, electrical outages, debris, transportation interruption, and damaged homes and businesses. At the height of the incident approximately 6,000 residents were housed in 134 shelters and curfews were imposed in many jurisdictions. Further damages occurred when a series of thunderstorms and tornados came through many of the designated areas in the southeast portion of Virginia on September 23.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth on September 15, 2003. Governor Warner requested, and a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1491-DR-VA) was granted to Virginia on September 18, 2003. FEMA closed the incident period effective October 1, 2003. A total of 36 confirmed deaths to date. Effective December 21, 2003, the US Homeland Security advisory level and the Virginia threat advisory level were raised from yellow (elevated) to orange (high).

2. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives

- ☐ Closing of the Disaster Field Office in late January to mid-February 2004.
- ☐ Implement an external affairs strategy that will proactively manage public expectations through targeted media releases, appropriate staffing of public meetings, and support of all recovery program elements.
- ☐ Monitor and track debris removal from public property.
- ☐ Continue to update timelines for completion of program delivery.
- ☐ Provide for health and safety of impacted citizens and recovery workers.
- ☐ Continue working with Hazard Mitigation Grant Program applicants.

3. Recovery Activities

A. Human Services:

i. Teleregistrations

- ☐ New teleregistrations since last reporting period amount to 33 for a total of **93,102** registrations at COB *January 5*.

- ❑ Although the registration period was terminated COB December 8, individuals with extenuating circumstances can still register for FEMA assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the speech or hearing impaired. Lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

ii. **Small Business Administration** (as of COB *1/5/04*)

	Issued	Received	#Approved	\$ Approved	Declined	Withdrawn	Pending
Home	52,303	6,928	2,597	\$55,518,000	3,338	880	113
Business	10,099	1,007	250	\$14,017,400	464	251	42
EIDL	0	1,054	155	\$3,039,800	70	800	29
TOTAL	62,402	8,989	3,002	\$72,575,200	3,872	1,931	184

iii. **Individuals and Households Program (IHP)**

(a) **Housing**

- ❑ Temporary housing assistance dispersed to date – **\$31,788,039.89**
- ❑ Residential destruction included 1,186 homes reported destroyed and 9,110 with major damage, 107,908 minor damage and those ‘affected.’ Losses are estimated at \$591,622,791.
- ❑ Of the 1,470 businesses involved, 77 are reported destroyed, 333 suffered major damage and 1,060 businesses suffered minor or casual damage. Estimated losses amount to \$84,143,356.

(b) **Travel Trailer Status as of 1/5/04**

County	Approved	On Site	Occupied	Vacated
Gloucester	85	85	84	2
Hampton	2	2	2	
James City	1	1	1	
King & Queen	3	3	3	
Lancaster	1	1	1	
Mathews	8	8	8	1
Middlesex	1	1	1	1
Northampton	1	1	0	
Poquoson	241	241	240	20
Prince George	1	1	1	
Rockbridge	8	8	7	1
Suffolk	1	1	1	
York	11	11	9	
Total	364	364	358	25

(c) **Other Needs Assistance (ONA)**

- ❑ Significant FEMA computer problems have adversely impacted processing of disaster claims. Some delays in assistance can be expected.
- ❑ The ONA Helpline has experienced some telephone system problems. Repairs are underway.

Amount referrals approved:	<i>\$18,676,871.84</i>
Amount referrals disbursed:	<i>\$18,345,436.84</i>
Total referrals received:	<i>43,048</i>
Total referrals approved:	<i>14,052</i>
Total referrals ineligible:	<i>23,485</i>
Total referrals withdrawn:	<i>1,377</i>
Total referrals pending:	<i>4,134</i>

iv. Disaster Unemployment Assistance (as of COB 1/2/04)

Total Claims Filed:	<i>2,496</i>
Approved:	<i>2,319</i>
Denied:	<i>176</i>
Amount Claims Disbursed:	<i>\$595,389</i>

v. Mental Health

- ☐ *The Individual Assistance Officer will attend the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administrators conference on January 21-23 in Washington, D.C.*

vi. Donations Coordination

- ☐ Calls as of COB ***1/5/04*** total 2,533 with 1,829 related to individual needs, 639 miscellaneous, 69 offers of donations and four calls from agencies with needs.
- ☐ Donations of goods, money and volunteer services can be made by calling the toll-free Donations Hotline at 1-877-245-5513.

vii. Hurricane Isabel Relief Fund.

- ☐ Fund total as of COB ***1/5/04*** ***\$29,016***

viii. Insurance Fraud Hotline

- ☐ A total of ***37*** communications (as of ***1/5/04***) have been received by Hotline, mail/fax and telephone by the Virginia State Police of suspected insurance fraud relative to Hurricane Isabel.

B. Infrastructure Services:

i. Public Assistance Program

- ☐ More than three weeks of significant FEMA computer downtime has greatly impacted processing of disaster claims. This backlog is not expected to be cleared until late January.
- ☐ Has received ***289*** Requests for Public Assistance to date in the system. Work has been completed on ***145*** applicants (***47%***).
- ☐ A total of ***1,330 project worksheets*** have been written out of 1,632 projected (***81%***), ***916*** obligated (***56%***) and ***414*** under review for a total of ***\$101,059,181.47 obligated***.
- ☐ Grants were conveyed to ***27 jurisdictions*** during the past week as indicated by bold italics in Attachment 1.

ii. Debris Management Liaison

- ☐ Met with Virginia Department of Marine Resources and officials of Surry County to evaluate debris remaining in the James River in that area; awaiting official response.
- ☐ One team continues to evaluate tree damage in the Hampton area.
- ☐ FEMA and the Virginia Department Inland Game and Fisheries working on resolution of debris removal operations within designated eagle nesting areas.
- ☐ Continues to provide technical assistance to applicants regarding their debris operations.

C. Mitigation

- ❑ *Completed mailing out HMGP eligibility and application letters by January 5. Full applications due March 1.*
- ❑ *Two training sessions for those pre-applicants approved to complete full applications will be held January 21 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Disaster Field Office. Registration for the class closes January 12. Eligible pre-applicants are listed at Attachment 2.*
- ❑ FEMA/NFIP Courses have now been set for the following locations. RSVP is required no later than two weeks prior to the course date. Reservations for the classes will be made on a first come, first served basis. See Attachment 3 for dates and locations.

D. Legislative Liaison:

- ❑ *Responded to an inquiry from Delegate Bill Janis' office regarding the reimbursement to a constituent for a generator. The matter is expected to be resolved in the next few days.*

E. Public Affairs

- ❑ No new press releases issued this week.

F. Environmental

- ❑ Conducting environmental assessments for newly opened temporary debris storage and reduction sites.
- ❑ Assisting with debris management.

G. Disaster Recovery Task Forces

- i. State Coordinator for Local Disaster Recovery Task Forces (LDRTF)
 - ❑ *Attended the Gloucester Citizens Assistance Committee meeting on January 6.*
 - ❑ *Attended a planning meeting with FEMA counterpart on January 6.*
 - ❑ *Greater Williamsburg Long Term Recover Committee will meet on January 7.*
 - ❑ *South East Virginia Unmet Needs Committee will meet on January 7.*
 - ❑ *Isle of Wight Disaster Recovery Task force to meet in Windsor on January 9. Held case management training on January 6.*

H. State Coordinating Officer

- ❑ A Deputy State Coordinating Officer will appear on Roanoke's WBRA TV on January 7 at 5:30 p.m.
- ❑ *Deputy State Coordinating Officers and senior staff will participate in the Disaster Response and Recovery Operations course via videoconference on January 20-21.*

I. Resources

- ❑ The DFO operations are supported daily by the Virginia Departments of:

Emergency Management	10
Transportation	4
Social Services	24
Conservation and Recreation	0
Fire Programs	1
Housing and Community Development	0
Forestry	0
Total (as of <i>January 5, 2004</i>)	39

J. Commonwealth Situation Reports

- ❑ Situation Reports are being prepared and distributed weekly on Tuesday.
- ❑ The Disaster Field Office operational hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator

/s/ Harry E. Colestock III, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

Attachment 1

Public Assistance Grants Conveyed to Jurisdictions As of *January 5*

A & N Electric Coop
Accomack County
Alberta, Town
Albemarle County
Aldie Vol. Fire Dept.
Amelia County
Amherst County
Appomattox County
Appomattox, Town
Arlington County
Ashland, Town
Augusta County
Berryville, Town
Blackstone, Town
Bowling Green, Town
Boydton, Town
Bridgewater, Town
Brunswick County
Buckingham County
Campbell County
Cape Charles, Town
Capital Region Airport Authority
Central Virginia Electric Coop
Charles City County
Chesapeake, City
Chesapeake Hospital Authority
Chesterfield County
Chincoteague, Town
Claremont, Town
Clarksville, Town
Colonial Beach, Town
Colonial Heights, City
Community Electric Coop
Culpeper, Town
Cumberland County
Danville, City
Dinwiddie County Water Authority
Dumfries, Town
Elkton, Town
Emporia, City
Essex County
Fairfax, City
Fairfax Co. Public Schools
Falls Church City
Farmville, Town
Fauquier County
Franklin, City
Fredericksburg, City
Front Royal, Town
Gloucester County
Goochland County
Gordonsville, Town
Greene County Public Schools
Greensville County
Grottoes, Town
Hampton, City

Hanover County
Hanover County Public Schools
Harrisonburg, City
Henrico County
Herndon, Town
Hopewell, City
Isle of Wight County
James City County
Jamestown/Yorktown Foundation
Kenbridge, Town
King & Queen County
King George County
King William County
Lawrenceville, Town
Leesburg, Town
Loudoun County
Louisa County
Luray, Town
Lynchburg, City
Madison, County
Manassas, City
Mathews County
Mathews County Electric Coop
Mathews, Town
McKenney, Town
Mecklenburg County
Mecklenberg Elec. Coop
Middleburg, Town
Middlesex County
Mt. Jackson, Town
New Kent County
Newport News, City
Norfolk Airport Authority
Norfolk, City
Northern Neck Elec. Coop
Northern Virginia Elec. Coop
Northampton County
Nottoway County
Onancock, Town
Onley, Town
Orange County
Orange, Town
Page County
Page County Public Schools
Pamunkey Indian Reservation
Pamunkey Regional Jail
Pathway Homes, Inc.
Petersburg, City
Pittsylvania County
Poquoson, City
Poquoson City Public Schools
Portsmouth, City
Powhatan County
Prince Edward County
Prince George County
Prince George Elec. Coop.

Rapidan Service Authority
Rappahannock Electric Coop
Richmond, City
Rockingham County
Science Museum of Virginia
Shenandoah County
Shenandoah, Town
Smithfield, Town
Southampton County
South Boston, Town
South Hill, Town
Southside Electric Coop
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
Stanley, Town
Staunton, City
St. Joseph's Villa
Strasburg, Town
Suffolk, City
Surry County
Sussex County
Sussex Service Authority
Tangier, Town
Tappanannock, Town
Urbanna, Town
Victoria, Town
Vienna, Town
Virginia Beach, City
Virginia Dept of Conserv. & Rec
Virginia Dept of Emergency Mgmt
Virginia Dept of Health
Virginia Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Virginia Dept. of Rehab. Services
Virginia Dept of Transportation
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Warren County
Warrenton, Town
Warsaw, Town
Waynesboro, City
Westmoreland County
West Point, Town
Williamsburg, City
York County

Updated Information is **bold** and *italicized*.

Attachment 2

Eligible HMGP Pre-Applicants

Accomack County
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission
Chesterfield County
Chesapeake, City
Emporia, City
Hampton, City
Newport News, City
Norfolk, City
Poquoson, City
Waynesboro
Fairfax County
Isle of Wight County
James City County
Lancaster County
Northampton County
Rockbridge County
Glasgow, Town
Pulaski, Town
Saxis, Town
Tangier, Town
Wachapreague, Town
York County

Attachment 3

FEMA/NFIP Courses

FEMA/NFIP Courses have now been set for the following locations. Lunches and snacks will be provided during all classes, and RSVP is required no later than two weeks prior to the course date. Reservations for the classes will be made on a first come, first served basis. Each session can hold up to 50 participants.

Residential Coastal Construction: The course is designed to train participants on FEMA Coastal Construction Manual. The manual is primary, state-of-the-art reference for planning, designing and constructing residential structures in the various coastal environments. The target audience is engineer, architects and building code officials. Floodplain management, hazard mitigation, planning and building officials with building science knowledge may also find this course informative.

February 23 and 24 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.):
The Chincoteague Center
6155 Community Drive
Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

March 1 and 2 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.):
The Virginia Beach Pavilion Convention Center
1000 19th Street
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

March 15 and 16 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
James City County/Williamsburg Community Center
5301 Longhill Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Retrofitting Residential Floodprone Buildings: This course is designed to provide engineering and economic guidance on what constitutes proper retrofitting for floodprone residential structures. The course will focus on concepts of floodproofing, regulatory framework, controlling parameters, design practices, and benefit, cost and technical feasibility analysis. The audience comprises engineers and architects, building code, floodplain management, hazard mitigation, planning, zoning and public works officials. It is recommended that participants complete FEMA Independent Study Course IS-279 as a prerequisite.

March 22 and 23 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Holiday Inn Select Koger Center South
1021 Koger Center Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23235

March 24 and 25 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
2800 Shore Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

March 30 and 31 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Holiday Inn Staunton - Golf and Convention Center
152 Fairway Lane (I-81, Exit 225)
Staunton, VA 24401

RSVP to Michelle Pope at (804) 290-8908 or (804) 897-6528 or mpope@vdem.state.va.us

Updated Information is **bold** and *italicized*.